

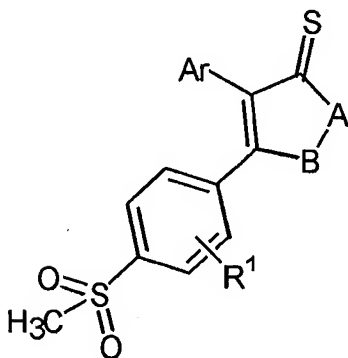
**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

What is claimed is:

1. (Original) A thione derivative represented by formula 1:

Formula 1



wherein:

A and B each independently represent O, S, NR<sup>2</sup>; wherein R<sup>2</sup> represents hydrogen, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkenyl, or aryl;

Ar represents aryl; heteroaryl; aryl or heteroaryl substituted with one to five radicals independently selected from the group consisting of C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkoxy, halogen, trifluoromethyl, nitro, acetoxy, amino, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>3</sub> alkylamino, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>3</sub> dialkylamino, hydroxy, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>3</sub> hydroxyalkyl, and thioxy; and

R<sup>1</sup> represents hydrogen, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkoxy, halogen, cyano, nitro, hydroxy, amino, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkylamino, or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> dialkylamino; or a non-toxic salt thereof.

2. (Original) The thione derivative according to claim 1 wherein

A and B each independently represent S or NH;

Ar represents phenyl; phenyl substituted with one to five radicals independently

selected from the group consisting of C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkoxy, halogen, trifluoromethyl, acetoxy, and nitro; pyridyl; or naphthyl;

R<sup>1</sup> represents hydrogen or halogen;  
or a non-toxic salt thereof.

3. (Original) The thione derivative according to claim 1, which is selected from the group consisting of:

- 4-(4-ethoxyphenyl)-5-(4-methanesulfonylphenyl)-[1,2]dithiol-3-thione;
- 4-(4-bromophenyl)-5-(4-methanesulfonylphenyl)-[1,2]dithiol-3-thione;
- 5-(4-methanesulfonylphenyl)-4-toryl-[1,2]dithiol-3-thione;
- 5-(4-methanesulfonylphenyl)-4-phenyl-[1,2]dithiol-3-thione;
- 5-(4-methanesulfonylphenyl)-4-methoxyphenyl-[1,2]dithiol-3-thione;
- 5-(4-methanesulfonylphenyl)-4-(2-trifluoromethylphenyl)-[1,2]dithiol-3-thione;
- 4-(4-chlorophenyl)-5-(4-methanesulfonylphenyl)-[1,2]dithiol-3-thione;
- 4-(3,4-dichlorophenyl)-5-(4-methanesulfonylphenyl)-[1,2]dithiol-3-thione;
- 5-(4-methanesulfonylphenyl)-4-pyridine-4-yl-[1,2]dithiol-3-thione;
- 5-(4-methanesulfonylphenyl)-4-pyridine-3-yl-[1,2]dithiol-3-thione;
- 5-(4-methanesulfonylphenyl)-4-pyridine-2-yl-[1,2]dithiol-3-thione;
- 4-(4-fluorophenyl)-5-(4-methanesulfonylphenyl)-[1,2]dithiol-3-thione;
- 4-(2,5-dimethoxyphenyl)-5-(4-methanesulfonylphenyl)-[1,2]dithiol-3-thione;
- 4-(3,5-dimethylphenyl)-5-(4-methanesulfonylphenyl)-[1,2]dithiol-3-thione;
- 5-(4-methanesulfonylphenyl)-4-(3-methoxyphenyl)-[1,2]dithiol-3-thione;
- 5-(4-methanesulfonylphenyl)-4-(2-nitrophenyl)-[1,2]dithiol-3-thione;
- 5-(4-methanesulfonylphenyl)-4-(3-trifluoromethylphenyl)-[1,2]dithiol-3-thione;
- 5-(4-methanesulfonylphenyl)-4-o-toryl-[1,2]dithiol-3-thione;

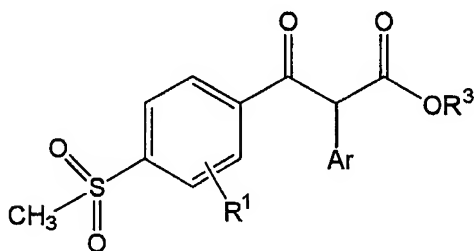
4-(2-chlorophenyl)-5-(4-methanesulfonylphenyl)-[1,2]dithiol-3-thione;  
4-(2,4-dichlorophenyl)-5-(4-methanesulfonylphenyl)-[1,2]dithiol-3-thione;  
4-(2-chloro-4-fluorophenyl)-5-(4-methanesulfonylphenyl)-[1,2]dithiol-3-thione;  
4-(3,4-dimethoxyphenyl)-5-(4-methanesulfonylphenyl)-[1,2]dithiol-3-thione;  
4-(2-bromophenyl)-5-(4-methanesulfonylphenyl)-[1,2]dithiol-3-thione;  
4-(2-fluorophenyl)-5-(4-methanesulfonylphenyl)-[1,2]dithiol-3-thione;  
4-(2,4-difluorophenyl)-5-(4-methanesulfonylphenyl)-[1,2]dithiol-3-thione;  
4-(3,4-difluorophenyl)-5-(4-methanesulfonylphenyl)-[1,2]dithiol-3-thione;  
5-(4-methanesulfonylphenyl)-4-naphthalene-2-yl-[1,2]dithiol-3-thione;  
5-(4-methanesulfonylphenyl)-4-pentafluorophenyl-[1,2]dithiol-3-thione;  
4-(4-isopropoxyphenyl)-5-(4-methanesulfonylphenyl)-[1,2]dithiol-3-thione;  
5-(4-methanesulfonylphenyl)-4-(4-propoxyphenyl)-[1,2]dithiol-3-thione;  
acetic acid 4-[5-(4-methanesulfonylphenyl)-3-thioxo-3H-[1,2]dithiol-4-yl]phenyl  
ester;  
5-(2-chloro-4-methanesulfonylphenyl)-4-(4-ethoxyphenyl)-[1,2]dithiol-3-thione;  
5-(2-chloro-4-methanesulfonylphenyl)-4-*p*-toryl-[1,2]dithiol-3-thione;  
4-(4-bromophenyl)-5-(2-chloro-4-methanesulfonylphenyl)-[1,2]dithiol-3-thione;  
5-(2-chloro-4-methanesulfonylphenyl)-4-(4-methoxyphenyl)-[1,2]dithiol-3-thione;  
5-(3-fluoro-4-methanesulfonylphenyl)-4-*p*-toryl-[1,2]dithiol-3-thione;  
5-(3-fluoro-4-methanesulfonylphenyl)-4-(4-methoxyphenyl)-[1,2]dithiol-3-thione;  
acetic acid 4-[5-(3-fluoro-4-methanesulfonylphenyl)-3-thioxo-3H-[1,2]dithiol-4-yl]-  
phenyl ester;  
5-(4-methanesulfonylphenyl)-4-*p*-toryl-1,2-dihydropyrazole-3-thione;  
4-(3,4-dichlorophenyl)-5-(4-methanesulfonylphenyl)-1,2-dihydropyrazole-3-

thione; and

4-(4-chlorophenyl)-5-(4-methanesulfonylphenyl)-1,2-dihydropyrazole-3-thione  
or a non-toxic salt thereof.

4. (Withdrawn) A propionic acid derivative represented by formula 2:

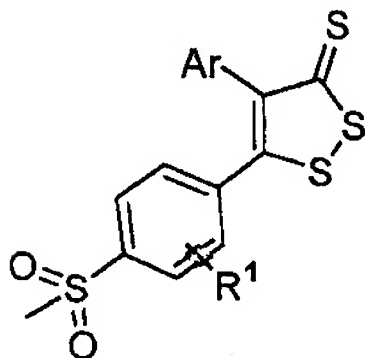
Formula 2



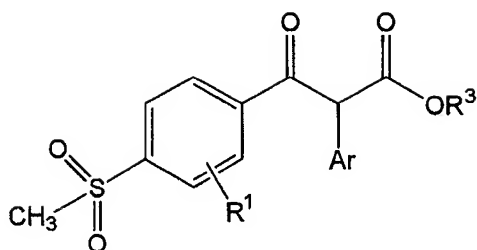
wherein, R<sup>1</sup> and Ar are as defined in claim 1 and R<sup>3</sup> represents C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkyl.

5. (Withdrawn) A method for preparing a thione derivative of formula 1a or a non-toxic salt thereof, comprising reacting a propionic acid derivative of formula 2 with phosphorus pentasulfide, Lawesson's Reagent, beta-oxothiostic acid, or potassium beta-oxothiostate:

Formula 1a



Formula 2



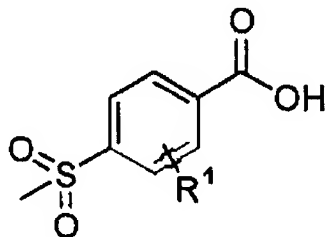
wherein:

R<sup>1</sup> and Ar are as defined in claim 1;

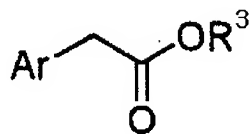
R<sup>3</sup> represents C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>3</sub> alkyl.

6. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 5, wherein the propionic acid derivative of formula 2 is prepared by reacting a methanesulfonylbenzoic acid derivative of formula 3 with a aryl acetate derivative of formula 4 in the presence of a base;

Formula 3



Formula 4

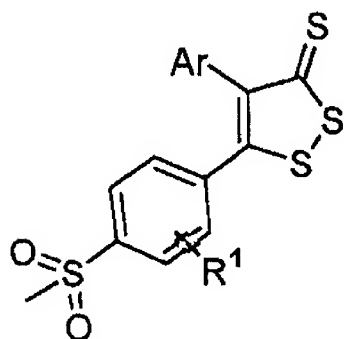


wherein:

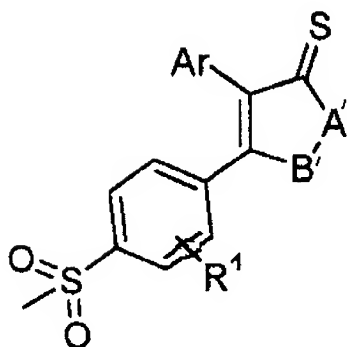
R<sup>1</sup> and Ar are as defined in claim 1 and R<sup>3</sup> represents C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkyl.

7. (Withdrawn) A method for preparing a thione derivative of formula 1b or a non-toxic salt thereof, comprising reacting a thione derivative of formula 1a with  $\text{NHR}^2\text{NH R}^2$  or  $\text{NH R}^2\text{OH}$  in the presence of a base;

Formula 1a



Formula 1b



wherein:

A' and B' each independently represent S or NR<sup>2</sup>, provided that A' and B' are not simultaneously S; and

Ar and R<sup>2</sup> are as defined in claim 1.

8. (Currently Amended) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a therapeutically effective amount of [[a]] the thione derivative or [[a]] the non-toxic salt thereof according to claim 1 ~~as an active ingredient and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier for the treatment of fever, pain, and inflammation.~~